

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAR ES 04142 131413Z

46

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 L-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 120984

P R 131145Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4441

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 4142

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, TZ

SUBJECT: DAR ES SALAAM PORT CONGESTION PROBLEM

REF: (A) STATE 243156 (B) DAR ES SALAAM 3966

1. SITUATION MUCH AS WE DESCRIBED IN OUR REFTEL WITH SHIPS CARRY-
ING CHINESE CARGOS NOW BEING BERTHED WITH CONSIDERABLE CARGO TO
DISCHARGE--TYING UP BERTHS FOR MANY DAYS (IN SOME CASES, TWO
WEEKS OR MORE). ASSISTANT HARBOR MASTER TOLD EMBOFF SHIPS
WAITING AVERAGE SEVEN DAYS TO BERTH, BUT OUR ESTIMATE RUNS
CLOSER EIGHTNINE DAYS. ONE CAPTAIN, IN PORT FOR TEN DAYS, NOTES
THAT AFTER PRESIDENT TOURED PORT AREA DECEMBER 5, ITS OPERATION
HAS IMPROVED. PRESIDENT'S VISIT RESULTED IN FEW FIRINGS AND
SEVERAL KEY OFFICIALS DOCKED PORTION THEIR DECEMBER SALARIES.
CONSEQUENTLY IMPORTERS PAYING MORE ATTENTION TO MOVING THEIR
CARGOS OUT OF PORT AREA QUICKLY. HOWEVER, LOST CARGOS STILL
MAJOR PROBLEM AND MAIN SHEDS OFFER LITTLE SPACE FOR NEWLY
DISCHARGED IMPORTS.

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2. DIFFICULT TO FORECAST PRECISE TIME SHIPS MUST WAIT FOR BERTH. CHARLOTTE LYKES BOUYED INSIDE HAVOR THIS MORNING AFTER THREE AND A HALF DAY WAIT. ESTIMATES FIVE DAYS TO DISCHARGE 608 TONS INTO LIGHTERS. OTHER EXTREME IS ONE SHIP WHICH SIGNALLED TO LYKES SHIP THAT IT HAD BEEN WAITING 23 DAYS. BERHING PRIORITIES APPEAR TO BE DETERMINED ON AMOUNT AND TYPE OF CARGO WITH GENERAL CARGO GIVEN LOWER PRIORITY. BELGIAN SHIP LOADING 1800 TONS OF COPPER (AT 900 TONS PER DAY) HAD TO WAIT ONLY SEVEN DAYS WHILE BRITISH SHIP WITH PRC GENERAL CARGO WAITING TEN DAYS. DISCHARGE RATE AVERAGING 250 TONS OF GENERAL CARGO DAILY, WHICH MEANS SHIPS TURN-AROUND TIME, IF DISCHARGING 3,000 TONS OF CARGO, COULD BE NEARLY THREE WEEKS.

3. FOR LUSAKA--UNDP SHIPPING ADVISOR TOLD US LAST WEEK THAT HE NOW HAS ENOUGH TRANSPORT (BARRING HIGH MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN RATE) TO MAINTAIN EVEN FLOW OF ZAMBIAN IMPORTS AWAY FROM DAR. CARTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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